

Draft Board Moves To Torrance; Serial Numbers Are Issued

Forced to move from its quarters at Narbonne high school by a decision of the Los Angeles school board, the local draft board, No. 280, moved Monday to an office at 1337 El Prado, across from The Torrance Herald. The board and its staff of Carl Marsteller, clerk; Miss Laura May Hyde, deputy clerk, and Miss Jean Hathaway, temporary sub-clerk, are now completing issuance of serial registration numbers to more than 2,650 young men who have registered from this district.

It was learned Friday when the board, consisting of Carl Steele, chairman; O. C. Field and A. E. Cameron, began numerically listing registered men that this district was the first in the county to complete its survey of registration cards. Serial num-

Serial Numbers at Herald Office

A complete list of serial numbers issued all men in this district who have registered for the draft is now available at The Herald office on El Prado. Residents of this area who want to learn what their draft numbers are may inspect the lists there at any time. The Herald is glad to offer this home-town service to its home-town readers and friends.

bers of all men who have registered as residents of this district, which includes Torrance, Lomita, Palos Verdes, Waverly and part of Gardena, are now posted at the draft board headquarters.

Members of the selective service advisory council for the Torrance-Lomita area were announced late last week by Chairman John E. McCall, Torrance city attorney who was named to the job by Governor Olson.

30 On Committee
Torrance citizens serving are Charles Curtis, L. V. Babcock, James Loughridge, Gordon L. Mann, G. W. Phillips, Kenneth C. Beight, Neil McConlogue, Edwin A. Bird, W. E. Bowen, Scott Ludlow and Mrs. C. E. Youngkin.

At Lomita members are Roy O. Brown, Joseph B. French, J. Abbott, C. Boyd Horton, Robert Nelwender, Herbert Poole, Clarence A. Rector and L. F. Schiemer.

McCall's committee has a total membership of 30, including members in Avalon, Gardena and Redondo. The committee will aid with general administration of the selective service act.

First Numbers Reported
The first 10 serial numbers went to Torrance residents. They were:

- 1—Edwin Simund Friberg, 1921 1/2 Gramercy.
 - 2—Jack Gilford Emmett, 1728 Cabrillo.
 - 3—George Douglas Ellingson, 1739 Marina.
 - 4—Adrian Leroy Thornberry, 2011 22nd.
 - 5—Howard Louis Weber, 1903 Andro.
 - 6—Elman Ray Burwell, 2068 22nd.
 - 7—Earl Joseph Anderson, 1330 1/2 Engracia.
 - 8—Jack Woodrow Sanford, 2068 218th.
 - 9—William Earl Studdard, 1915 Andro.
 - 10—Glenn Meles Jain, 1724-A Manuel.
- The first Lomitan on the list is: 90—Marion Harrison Fuller, 25110 Narbonne. Other "firsts" for surrounding communities are:
- 79—James St. Clair Healy, 3601 24th street, Waverly.
 - 35—Alden W. Smith, Rolling Hills.
 - 19—Leo Cosmas Zimmerman, 15226 South Normandie, Gardena.
 - 75—Vernon Earl Shattuck, McCarrall Ranch, Redondo Beach.
 - 207—Raoul Schumacher, Van.
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He's No. 1 Here



EDWIN S. FRIBERG
... wife is T. H. S. student

"I'm no better than any other guy so if Uncle Sam wants me I won't kick up any objections," declared Edwin S. Friberg, 24-year-old Columbia Steel worker living at 1921 1/2 Gramercy avenue, last Saturday when he was informed that he was given serial number 1 in the list of 2,655 registrants in this district for the national draft.

Friberg, a native of Leadville, Colo., who came here from that city in June 1939, had just returned to his job of racking in the sheet mill after being off the pay-roll for several months with an injured arm. He has been married for the past 16 months, his wife, the former Beverly Taylor, being a Senior at Torrance high school. They were married secretly in Leadville, and Beverly Friberg did not even tell her best chum about it until after they came to Torrance.

Friberg has four brothers, one of them, Carl, having served as a vacation relief officer on the Torrance police department last summer, and two sisters. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Friberg, live in Denver.

Trade Group Re-Organizes

Re-organization of the Torrance Retail Merchants Association to include men and women in all lines of business activity was perfected last evening at a dinner meeting in Daniels Cafe. The organization will hereafter be known as the Torrance Business Men's Association.

Chosen to head the re-organization association at last evening's meeting were: Robert McCullum, Dr. Aiden Smith, Howard G. Locke, J. E. Miller, Michael Strasser, George Moore, and Don Miller. This board will select its own chairman and other officers.

A meeting of all business men and women in Torrance will shortly be called by the new board, it was announced, at which time the new policies and program for the coming year will be discussed. First on the list will be the problem of providing Christmas street decorations.

Hillman R. Lee, retiring president of the former retail group, presided at last evening's meeting.

Willkie Forces Attract 325 to Rally Here

Pro-Willkie forces here gave Torrance its first direct contact with the national campaign Monday night when they presided a meeting in the Civic Auditorium with a street parade of a number of automobiles led by a public address car. About 325 were present at the Auditorium meeting which was featured by an appearance of the Duncan Sisters, former stage and screen stars.

The principal speaker was A. C. Eddington, writer and lecturer, who blasted at the third term and gave Wendell Willkie's and the Republican party's stand on oil conservation, national defense and labor.

Attorney C. T. Rippe opened the rally and presented Scott R. Ludlow who warmed up the assembly with the group singing of "America" with Mrs. Kathryn Buffington at the piano. The Duncan Sisters revealed they had lost none of their old-time pep and personality in their offering of songs and amusing patter. They presented an original political song, "Hear That Bugle Call."

Carl Hyde introduced the speaker Eddington. Bursts of applause punctuated his address, particularly when he rapped the New Deal and paid tribute to Willkie's stand on national issues.

Red Cross Drive by Precincts Is Planned Here

Under a program outlined by General Chairman Robert J. Deining, the annual Red Cross Roll Call will be carried out here by precinct organizations in order that all residents may be contacted to secure memberships in the national humanitarian organization from Armistice Day, Nov. 11 to Nov. 30.

Deining has appointed a district chairman for each precinct in the city, Waverly, National Supply Company and Columbia Steel Company. These workers and others interested in assisting the local drive are requested to meet at the Legion clubhouse next Tuesday night, Oct. 29, at 7:30 o'clock to receive instructions. Miss Lee of the County Red Cross will be present to explain the purpose of the Roll Call. The precinct chairmen follow:

- No. 1—John Salm, 1824 182nd St.; No. 2—Tom Babbitt, 1416 Cedar St.; No. 3—Walter W. Rowland, 1005 Sartori Ave.; No. 4—Dewey Godard, 1422 Marcehina Ave.; No. 5—Chas. A. Curtis, 1321 E. 5th Ave.; No. 6—C. D. Lowen, 904 Beech Ave.; No. 7—Ralph Satchell, 1303 Acacia Ave.; No. 8—Wm. D. Husbands, 1811 1/2 Gramercy Ave.; No. 9—Paul Findley, 2121 Gramercy Ave.; No. 10—Lester Fix, 2271 231st St.; No. 11—J. Hal-langer, 2611 Arlington Ave.; No. 12—D. R. Van Gorder at the C.C.M.O.; No. 13—Al Greiner, 803 Portola Ave.; No. 14—Jim Burchett, 1411 Amapola Ave.; No. 15—L. V. Babcock, 2012 1/2 Gramercy Ave.; No. 16—Dr. H. C. Smiley, 152 Camino de las Colinas, and Waverly, Wm. J. Crowther, 2444 Park St.
- Scott R. Ludlow of the National Supply will conduct the Roll Call in that plant while E. M. Johnston will head the campaign at the Columbia Steel plant.

Hogue's Plea for Probation Up for Decision Oct. 28

A hearing on Richard F. Hogue's application for probation will be held in the 1st Beach Superior court next Monday, Oct. 28. Hogue, 44, of 2115 Gramercy avenue, pleaded guilty last month in a Long Beach municipal court of grand theft of \$21,503.90 from his employers, the Arden Farms Company.

Hogue served the firm as cashier of the office in 1937 and later as its office manager. He claimed he paid the bulk of the stolen money to Walter Hast, 64, of La Jolla, over a portion of a few months. Hast, it was reported, was charged with some 19 counts of grand theft by the district attorney of San Diego county.

Death of Mrs. Torrance, Wife of City Founder, Ends Beneficent Career

Flags thruout the city of Torrance flew at half staff Monday in tribute to the passing of Mrs. Helena Childs Torrance, 71, widow of the city's founder, Jared Sidney Torrance, who died in 1921. Mrs. Torrance slept peacefully away to her final rest at her home, 1050 South El Prado avenue, Pasadena, last Friday at 9:30 p.m. following an illness of several months.

Recitation of the Rosary was held Sunday evening at the home. The Requiem Mass held Monday morning at the Holy Family Catholic church in South Pasadena was attended by a number of Torrance residents and a host of other friends in Pasadena and other communities—as Mrs. Torrance's friends were legion. Entombment took place at Calvary Mausoleum.

While Mrs. Torrance's beneficences covered a wide field of charitable and welfare activities, her most absorbing interest was the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, a \$150,000 Class A institution erected in the memory of her husband. In his will, Mr. Torrance endowed the hospital with a trust fund to help defray its operating costs, but he died before funds for its construction had been provided. However, knowing the wishes of her husband, Mrs. Torrance and other heirs generously contributed the necessary funds to build the splendid hospital which serves Torrance and many other nearby communities.

In addition to bearing the major share of the cost of its construction, Mrs. Torrance annually made substantial contributions to the hospital by the form of additional equipment and furnishings for the nurses' home. The hospital was given to the community as an outright gift and is governed by a board of directors elected by members of the hospital association which anyone in the community is eligible to join. Ever since the hospital was built in 1925, Mrs. Torrance has been a member of its board of directors and at the time of her death she was president of that body. Her devoted interest in the welfare of the hospital, her capable leadership in its management and kindly associations which she enjoyed with its staff members were recognized by all. Her passing is keenly felt by everyone connected with the institution.

A True Christian
A devout Catholic, Mrs. Torrance contributed generously to her church in South Pasadena and its charities. She also made a substantial gift toward the erection of the new Church of the Nativity in Torrance. As in other phases of her abundant life, Mrs. Torrance's conception of a true Christian recognized no narrow bonds of sectarianism and she frequently assisted

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Members of the city council adopted the following resolution of condolence Tuesday night in commemoration of the passing of Mrs. Jared Sidney Torrance:

WHEREAS, the members of the City Council of the City of Torrance have learned with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Helena Childs Torrance, widow of the late Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of this city, and

WHEREAS, the City was deeply indebted to her for her generous gifts and her untiring efforts in behalf of the City and all of its people, and

WHEREAS, her death has brought deep regret to the members of this Council, and to her many friends and admirers in the City of Torrance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Torrance, in behalf of its members and all people of Torrance, express to the family of its beloved benefactor deepest sympathy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be signed by the Mayor and that the Clerk send a copy to each member of her family.

TOM F. MCGUIRE,
Mayor
ATTEST:
A. H. Bartlett,
City Clerk of the
City of Torrance.

Available Data on City's Election History Shows Torrance Followed National Trends

By MICHAEL STRASZER
In just 12 more days Torrance will climax its eighth presidential election campaign by the march of its electors to the polls. The 37th quadrennial national vote event in the history of the nation so this city's share in the history of presidential campaigns is very modest.

Also the first national election to be held here among the settlers of Torrance was 1912, a diligent hunt for records of how Torrance electors voted that year and for the next two presidential elections has failed to turn up the information.

This city was not incorporated until May, 1921 so results of Torrance elections until 1920 are lumped in the total for Los Angeles county and unless some historically-minded resident has kept a private record of the results of the 1912-when Woodrow Wilson (D), defeated Theodore Roosevelt (Prog.), and William H. Taft (R)—and subsequent elections, the local tallies probably will never be known.

What About 1940?
In 1916 Wilson won re-election over Charles Evans Hughes (R), Allan L. Benson (So.) and J. Frank Hanly (Proh.). The 1920 decision went to Warren G. Harding (R), who was opposed by James M. Cox (D), Debs (So.), Parley P. Christensen (Far. Lab.) and Aaron S. Watkins (Proh.). From 1924 on, files of The Herald preserve the record of

this city's participation in presidential elections. The reports show that Torrance has divided its allegiance to the Republican and Democratic parties evenly—in 1924 and 1928 it went Republican; in 1932 and 1936 it gave majorities to President Roosevelt.

What Torrance will do in 12 days is your guess also it may be pointed out that Democratic registrations here are better than two to one, the qualified electors being 3,699 Democrats and 1,408 Republicans.

4 to 1 for Hoover
Let's "look at the record" as Al Smith used to say and see what happened in those campaigns where the Torrance vote is preserved:
In 1924 Coolidge was president, succeeding Warren G. Harding who died Aug. 2, 1923 in San Francisco after visiting Alaska, the first chief executive to see that territory. Coolidge was given a handsome vote here when he sought reelection, receiving 888 to Robert M. LaFollette's (Prog.-So.) 270 and John W. Davis' (D) scant 61 out of a total registration of 1,265.

Then comes 1928. The depression, a dim, pallid thing then, first started its stalk of the nation. The election came on after Coolidge had opened his thin, tight lips to emit "I do not choose to run" and suffered black defeat when the G.O.P. convention in Kansas City failed

Local Men Face Prison Terms; Blown Safe Found

Duncan Lee Thomas, 33, a two-time loser who was arrested in Torrance when caught by police with burglar tools in his possession and later confessed planning to burglarize two stores there, was sentenced in the Tulare Superior court to Folsom prison late last week. He lived in Torrance.

Chester H. Purtyman, 21, also of Torrance, who was caught with Thomas, and Frank Williams, 26, another local resident, whom Thomas and Purtyman implicated in their confessions, pleaded guilty to the charge of conspiracy to commit burglary and will be given probation hearings. Williams and Thomas were arrested here.

Thomas admitted prior conviction for burglary in Texas in 1934 and in New Mexico in 1936. The court ruled that he is not to come under the habitual criminal classification.

Recover Safe Here
Most of the contents of a safe, assertedly "blown" by Thomas, Purtyman and Williams early in August at Taft as well as the shattered safebox and its door were recovered from an oil sump here Saturday afternoon. Having obtained information from the suspects as to the location of the blasted safe which was carted here following the robbery, Bakersfield officers, assisted by Officer Tom Perkin and a C.C. M.O. worker, grappled for the strong box in the sump located on the southwest corner of Hawthorne avenue and Torrance boulevard.

Almost at once they pulled in the door of the safe. After a few tries they located the safe and dragged it up on a bank. Most of the papers, including checks and office records, were found in the box. After being cleaned of its oil muck, safe-door and contents were taken to Bakersfield.

The officers from the northern city told local police that authorities there have placed "holds" on Purtyman and Williams on three counts of robbery. These "holds" will be exercised after Tulare authorities are through with the men.

Urge Aliens to Register Now
A total of 414 aliens have registered at the Torrance postoffice since the national law went into effect Aug. 28, Postmaster Earl Conner reported Tuesday. He appealed to foreign-born residents of the community to register as soon as possible in order to prevent a last minute rush that would conflict with the annual Christmas busy season at the postoffice. The last day to register is Dec. 26.

Coroner's Jury Finds Death-Dealing Refinery Blast Was Accidental

Two men died of burns, one is still in a serious condition at Torrance Memorial Hospital and four others were treated for injuries as result of an earth-rocking explosion and fire at the gasoline refinery of the General Petroleum Corporation's huge plant in North Torrance early Saturday morning.

Lots of Fun for Local Youngsters On Hallowe'en

Hey, kids! Got your costumes ready yet for the big Hallowe'en parties to be held in Torrance and Waverly next Thursday night, Oct. 31? Better start thinking about them because there's going to be a lot of prizes awarded those who have the best garbs that witching afternoon and evening.

Here is the schedule of festivities:
At the City Park from 3 to 5:30 p.m., Oct. 31, games, prizes and refreshments of popcorn balls and apples for all youngsters up to 10 years of age.

At the Waverly Recreation Center, 3 to 5:30 p.m., a program, games, prizes and refreshments to boys and girls up to 12 years of age.
On El Prado between Cravens and Sartori avenues, 6 to 9 p.m., carnival games, fun, prizes and refreshments of popcorn balls and apples for children from 10 to 15 years of age.

In the Civic Auditorium, 9 p.m. to midnight, a costume dance with young people from 15 to 21, with prizes, serpentine, confetti, noise-makers and a "hot band."

—And it's all free, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation department!

Motor License Office Assured In Torrance

Torrance business men through the efforts of Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Chamber of Commerce, have again made arrangements for a renewal branch office of the Department of Motor Vehicles to serve the motorists of Torrance and the surrounding communities. Temporary quarters will be located at 1324 El Prado, opening Jan. 2, and closing Feb. 5, 1941.

Deputy Director Bernard J. Kelley, of the Department of Motor Vehicles, has assured Gilmeister that Leonard E. Tristram will again be in charge as manager. Tristram has served Torrance in this capacity during the last two years.

In 1940, this office issued 14,784 plates, and plans have been made not only to increase the personnel, but also larger quarters have been secured, as they expect to issue 20,000 plates.

Planet Transit Will Be Observed Here On Nov. 11

An opportunity to watch a rare transit of the planet Mercury across the face of the sun will be available to local residents on Armistice Day, Nov. 11.

Ralph Johnson, local recreation worker, will set up a 100-foot sun telescope in a central part of the city through which the public will be invited to see the spectacle.

Edwin L. Robinson, 45, Los Angeles, succumbed at 12:50 p.m. last Saturday, about eight hours after the blast. Arnold Sundt, 43, of Gardena, lived until 5:35 that afternoon. Jewell Bourland, 46, of Sawtelle, is reported improving.

All were covered with flames when a still exploded at 4:18 a.m., Saturday.

Shocks Like Quake
Flames spurted more than 500 feet in the air, shooting higher than the nearby Columbia Broadcasting System's transmission tower, immediately following the explosion. The shock of the blast was so great that many residents believed they felt an earthquake.

General Petroleum officials said there was no indication of sabotage but that a thorough investigation of that possibility was made this week. Damage was estimated at \$20,000, chiefly to the plant's intricate pipe system.

The boiler house is located some 60 feet from where the leak is believed to have been. Three large pumps and an electric motor were badly damaged in the blaze. Fire spread rapidly, despite efforts of General Petroleum and city firemen, and pipe at some distance to the blast and fire was damaged.

"Scare" Reports On Air
Firemen, after an hour's battle, extinguished the blaze. Officers Speegher and Evans, who were on patrol duty, saw the whole countryside light up from the explosion as they were driving west on 190th street near Crenshaw. They turned around and sped back to the General Petroleum plant to keep roads open for firemen and ambulances.

Broken Glass Said Cause
The explosion and fire inspired many "scare" reports to be broadcast over the radio, one news commentator describing an "80-acre brush fire that was threatening Torrance."

At the inquest, held yesterday morning, the cause of the blast and resultant fire was ascribed to a broken glass in a "look" box in the refinery's tall-house. The break allowed high volatile gas vapors to escape and these were carried to the furnace. An explosion followed immediately. The coroner's jury decided that the deaths of the two workmen were accidental and attached no blame to anyone for the two fatalities.

None of the witnesses examined could advance any reason for the break in the thick glass of the "look" box. I. C. Rhodes, Los Angeles, shift foreman at the plant, testified that "everything was in working order 30 minutes before the explosion when I made my round." He asserted there was no negligence shown, a statement which was reiterated by other General Petroleum workers who were examined by Deputy Coroner Arthur Kane.

Witnesses Examined
Witnesses who testified at the inquest, held at Stone and Myers' Chapel, were: Carl L. Cheade, 903 Beech street, who had identified the bodies of Robinson and Sundt; Captain Ernest M. Ashton of the police department; I. C. Rhodes, shift foreman at the plant; Ernest Morton.

Gun Registration Law Approved

All persons who possess any type of firearms, such as pistols, revolvers, shotguns and similar weapons, will be required to register such firearms with the Chief of Police, according to an ordinance adopted at first reading Tuesday evening by the Torrance city council.

Such permits shall not be construed as permission to carry concealed weapons, the ordinance sets forth, and permits must be secured whether the guns are carried on the person or kept on the premises.

Violation of the ordinance is punishable by a fine of \$100 or 100 days in jail, or both.

MARCH OF RIMES

POPPYCOCK — By H. F. NOAKE
What silly talk is going the rounds of youngsters getting out of bounds; alleged reformers rise to bray that kids have changed, since grandpa's day. We know a pious neighbor gent (now party to this false lament), with whom we shared a sordid youth concerning which, comes now, the truth. One night, when folks had gone to bed, he crept in Col. Potter's shed and decorated Maud, the cow, an emerald green, from tail to brow. On Hallowe'ens, he went to town, upsetting things that weren't nailed down; and more than one vine covered gate did "Wayward Will" appropriate. We call to mind another day, a tight young man, a runaway, a ruined horse, a mother's wall, and William, languishing in jail. This should suffice to make quite clear the goings on of yesteryear; and prove, beyond a doubt, one thing, that every kid must have his fling. So brother, try and give a break to modern youngsters, on the make; and bear in mind ye ancient crack that "pots should not call kettles black."